

Meeting Start time:

7:35 pm

Attendees:

Denise Soppas (chair)
Charlie Neiss
Sylvia Walker
Chris Baglieri
Alice Logie (7:42)

Agenda

- Check-in
- Review of Accomplishments
- Discuss FUNJ Next Steps and 8th Principle Board recommendations

Check In

Sundown Town Awareness

Review of Accomplishments

1. Designed a FUNJ 8th Principle resolution
2. FUNJ is the 58th congregation in the country to adopted the 8th principle on May 23rd
3. FUNJ 8th principle task force meets monthly to accomplish this goal
4. Lead 3 worship services on 8th principle or antiracism topics
5. Met with the Congregation to Review and answer questions on the meaning of adopting the 8th principle and the commitment to the FUNJ 8th principle resolution.
6. Incorporated an “8th Principle minute” into our worship service
7. Solicited recommendations from a Virtual Focus Group of past and present members of color and included these recommendations into the fabric of the FUNJ 8th principle resolution

8. Dialogues on Race antiracism training sponsored by the Summit Anti-Racism Coalition- This past year 4 FUNJ members have completed Part 1 and 4 members have complete part 2 (we now have 9 members who have completed part 1 and 4 members who have completed part 2)
9. We have shared educational opportunities with the congregation. Several members have attended these.
10. The 8th Principle Chairperson has actively participated in the National 8th principle learning committee lead by Paul Cole Jones
11. The 8th Principle Chairperson has attended the Jubilee 3 antiracism training lead by POC UUA leadership (Leon Spencer, Paula Cole Jones, Latricia Calliar)
12. 2 members participate in an antiracism small group ministry book discussion with TUS building relationships with other congregations doing antiracism work.
13. 4 FUNJ members have become involved with the Fanwood/Scotch Plains "Social Justice Matters" (local anti-racism non-profit organization)
14. Social Justice Matters has recognized us for our financial support
15. Our 2021-2021 FUNJ budget includes funding for an 8th principle action plan and our continued work
16. Our FUNJ board has committed to spending ½ an hour each meeting to educate themselves on the 8th principle
17. Share the plate selections were influenced by the 8th principle minutes and services
18. Educating working group members
 - a. Ally nudge
 - b. Kasey Neiss' workshops on White Supremacy Culture

Discuss FUNJ Next Steps and 8th Principle Board Recommendations

- The working group will make the following recommendations to the board
 - Short statement of the proposed mission of this group for the coming year

- This working group will remain the primary vehicle for 8th principle work
 - Formulate goals
 - Create plan
 - Begin implementation of plan
- The working group is charged with continuing to work with board on a regular basis
- Basic recommendation of a two-track approach
 - Individual
 - Resources for individual growth and development
 - Development goals and plan for achieving them by the end of the summer
 - Resources for taking action outside of First U, both individually and as a congregation
 - Institutional
 - Eval and training
 - Interrogate current state of institution of First U
 - Analyze data collected and identify issues
 - Construct plan to address issues - plan due Q1 2022
- Board commits to continue to work on itself by having this working group provide structured time on a regular basis
- Reminder to update the congregation's mission statement as per the resolution:
 - "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we shall include "accountable deconstruction of institutional racism in our congregation and the fostering of this work in our communities and in the broader society" in the Mission of our congregation"

Parking Lot

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Next Meeting

June 12th - 7:30 pm

Meeting End time:

8:57 pm